**SLIDE # 1 OBTAINING THE MANTLE, PASSING THE BATON**

A very important goal for most adults is to help prepare and empower the next generations.

Anything we accomplish with our lives will be either lost or multiplied by those who follow us:

EXAMPLE: A student from a prosperous family: young son said one morning that he would no longer go to school: so his Mom gave him a can filled with pencils, to sell out on the street, telling him this is what he would do for the rest of his life if he did not get an education!…. he went back to school!

Parents work hard to help their children get a better education / better job / better life

Businessmen teach their children how to run the family business /powerful business families forge dynasties! Rockefellers & Rothschilds or the Khoos or the Tangs

Each generation has the opportunity to go on to better things!

**SLIDE # 2 - USAIN BOLT**

In the London Olympics in 2012 the world watched as Usain Bolt, the fastest man in the world, ran the 100 meter race in 9.58 seconds (Gold Medal!). But in the London Olympics there were more than a dozen other runners that were faster than Usain Bolt when they ran 100 meters! (they were in relay teams, as 2nd 3rd & 4th runners- they start while running!).

My daughters had a faster start than what I did: Rebecca, better musician than me by age 10- Esther had already led dozens of people to Christ by the age when I was just a new born-again Christian!

- One of the most biblically important transfers of blessings from one generation to the future generations is taught us by the ministry of Elijah

**SLIDE # 3-ELIJAH GIVING HIS MANTLE**

We know that Elijah transferred his mantle to Elisha- but many more people received!

- Elijah imparted his ministry to many spiritual sons (we will look at this soon)

- Elijah’s mantle was imparted to a man centuries after Elijah died! John the Baptist, Lk.1:17

- Elijah’s mantle will be imparted to many in these last days, Mal.4:5, Mat.17:11-12.

Elijah had one of the greatest ministries in the O.T. His prayers and his calling down fire from heaven started a revival that impacted his nation as they turned back to God.

Then through the impartation of his prophetic mantle to Elishah and his other disciples, Elijah multiplied his ministry to the next generation to come.

DISCIPLE # 1 - Elijah had a servant who had followed him during the time of revival (1 Kngs.18:38-39, 40-45) but who did not follow him in the difficult times (1 Kngs.19:1-3) so he did not receive a deep impartation from Elijah's ministry. HE GAINED A TESTIMONY, BUT NOT A MINISTRY!

ELIJAH’S FIRST UNNAMED SERVANT MISSED THE MANTLE- DROPPED THE BATON!

ELIJAH WAS A DIFFICULT MAN TO FOLLOW - HE WAS A MAN OF LIKE PASSIONS, JAM. 5:17

Leading revival one day- wanted to give up & die the next day!

Fearlessly faced the 400 false prophets of Baal- next day, ran for his life, afraid of Jezebel!

YOUNG PEOPLE: DON’T MISS GOD’S BLESSING- MANTLES- BECAUSE OF THE FLAWS OF THE OLDER GENERATION!

YOU MAY EVEN BE MORE TALENTED, MORE EMOTIONALLY BALANCED, MORE ZEALOUS- BUT IF YOU MISS THE MANTLE AND DROP THE BATON, YOU LOSE- AND THE WHOLE TEAM LOSES! THE BODY OF CHRIST LOSES!

**SLIDE # 4 - BATON DROPPED**

EX: 2008 Beijing Olympics: the USA had 7 world champions in their relay teams, expected several gold medals. But 3 times the teams dropped their baton and disqualified themselves: they received NO gold medals!

WE NEED MORE THAN YOUNG TALENT & ZEAL- WE NEED TEAM PLAYERS! 5th commandment: “Honor your father & mother that you may live long in your inheritance” HONOR SPIRITUAL FATHERS & MOTHERS ALSO!- TO KEEP THEIR INHERITANCES- THE MANTLES & BLESSINGS- WE CAN THINK LIGHTLY OF WHAT HAS BEEN PASSED ON – WE CAN DROP IT!

PERSONAL EXAMPLE: I spoke at Pastor Bailey’s funeral service- the funeral was also on Father’s Day. I mentioned that the way to fully honor Pastor Bailey as a spiritual father is to follow in his godly footsteps and help complete his calling and vision. That is how we can obtain & also keep his inheritance, his mantle!

DON’T FORGET WHAT GOD HAS ALREADY DONE THRU PAST GENERATIONS-

THERE ARE MANTLES, MINISTRIES, & BLESSINGS, THAT ARE WAITING TO BE GRASPED!

READ BIOGRAPHIES! STUDY ABOUT THE LIVES & MINISTRIES OF PAST MEN & WOMEN OF GOD! HONOR THEM AND YOU WILL RECEIVE FROM THEM!

Mature Ministries (mantles): PROPHETS- ALSO TEACHERS- SPIRITUAL MOTHERS- PASTORS- SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMEN- LEARN FROM THEM- HONOR THEM- TAKE YOUR BATON!

ELIJAH’S SECOND DISCIPLE, ELISHA:

**SLIDE # 5- ELIJAH & ELISHA**

 - The next young man Elijah invited to be his servant & disciple was Elisha, 1 Kngs 19:19-21 “GO BACK!” “I HAVEN’T DONE ANYTHING IMPORTANT TO YOU!” “YOU DON’T NEED TO FOLLOW ME” “STAY HOME!”

ELISHA WAS TESTED BY ELIJAH’S DIFFICULT CHARACTER / BUT TESTED BY GOD!

- TESTINGS WILL COME!

EX: in 1901, The was a small Bible school in Kansas, USA- Pentecost first fell there, they were baptized in HS. The school was for white Americans- still segregation laws in the southern USA- blacks could not attend the classes-

**SLIDE # 6 – WILLIAM SEYMOUR**

A black man, blind in one eye, sat just outside the door and listened to the classes- received the anointing!

WILLIAM SEYMOUR WENT TO LOS ANGELES AND STARTED THE AZUSA STREET REVIVAL!

He could have ignored the white Bible school –but he was hungry for God, & humble enough to stay and gain the anointing!

**SLIDE # 7- ELIJAH & ELISHA**

ELISHA SERVED FOR MANY YEARS BUT THE TIME CAME WHEN ELIJAH WAS TO LEAVE FOR HEAVEN & PASS ON HIS MANTLE:

2 Kngs 2: 1-2 Elijah tested Elisha- “STAY HERE” in Gilgal- place of past victory- consecration

2 Kngs 2:4 “STAY HERE” in Bethel- house of God- good place! Anointed fellowship!

2 Kngs 2:5-6 “STAY HERE” in Jericho- Sons of the prophets (Bible school)

Elisha could have stayed and been one of the sons of the prophets- gained some of Elisha’s mantle!

But Elisha’s testimony was “I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU” ... “I WILL NOT LET YOU GO UNLESS YOU BLESS ME”

2 Kngs 2:7 The sons of the prophets followed Elisha part-way, and only received part of his ministry! Elisha followed him across the Jordan JORDAN- SYMBOL OF DEATH! (The Jordan river led to the Dead Sea, & Jesus was proclaimed the Lamb of God at the river Jordan)

Elijah’s other disciples wouldn’t cross the Jordan- wouldn’t follow Elijah all the way!

2 Kngs 2:9 Elisha asked for a double portion- the inheritance of the firstborn son!

ELISHA WAS THE MOST MATURE SPIRITUAL SON OF ELIJAH BECAUSE HE FOLLOWED HIM THE CLOSEST!

2 Kngs 2:10-13 Elijah gave his full mantle to his servant and spiritual son, Elisha.

2 Kngs 2:14-15 Elisha became Israel’s national prophet & led the other prophets who gained lesser ministries

Elijah’s 1st servant –only gained a testimony, not a ministry!

Elijah’s students at the schools of the prophets received some of his mantle… Elisha received it all!

GOD HAS MANY MANTLES- BLESSINGS- ANOINTINGS- TO PASS ALONG TO THE NEXT GENERATION > THE GENERATION THAT WILL COMPLETE THE GREAT COMMISSION!

EX: EUROPE- HAS A GROUP OF 1000+ churches started 80 years ago

George Jefferies shook England – sent out many disciples

**SLIDE # 8 – GEORGE JEFFERIES**

(SAID TO YOUNG MAN SENT TO FRANCE: “GIVE ME YOUR HANDS”- imparted a healing ministry to him- by that gifting, the young man started many churches across France)

EX: 30 years later a new Bible school graduate had a free day in London, wandered around on buses- walked past a house with the name plate George Jefferies…Jefferies prayed for him!

The young Bible school graduate who received a might mantle of an evangelist- was Reinhard Bonnke!

**SLIDE # 9 REIHARD BOHNKE BRING REVIVAL TO AFRICA**

ELIJAH’S MANTLE IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THESE LAST DAYS- GEORGE JEFFRIES’S MANTLE IS AVAILABLE THRU THE 1000+ CHURCHES STARTED BY HIS SPIRITUAL SONS, & ALSO THRU REINHARD BOHNKE’S MINISTRY

**SLIDE # 10 – BRIAN BAILEY**

PASTOR BAILEY HAS PREPARED MANY SERVANTS OF GOD- MANY PASTORS & LEADERS & MISSIONARIES HAVE RECEIVED BLESSINGS, GODLY DOCTRINE, WISDOM & ANOINTINGS – TO IMPART TO YOU!

EX: WHEN PASTOR BAILEY DIED: A SISTER IN COSTA RICA (a village lady in a tribal area) RECEIVED A VISION WHEN PASTOR BAILEY DIED (and she did not know it) – PASTOR BAILEY’S MANTLE DIVIDED UP & SCATTERED AROUND THE WORLD ... one piece landed on her! OTHER PARTS OF THE MANTLE ARE AVAILABLE AROUND THE WORLD!

**SLIDE # 11 – PASSING THE BATON**

On a relay team, the transfer of the baton happens while the runner is in a passing zone. (usually 20 meters long) (the baton must be passed in this zone, or the team is disqualified!)

THE RACE IS ON! PAST GENERATIONS HAVE HANDED THE BATON ONWARDS-

**SLIDE # 12- ELIJAH & ELISHA**

TONIGHT, SOME OF YOU NEED TO RESPOND TO THE CALL- YOU ARE BEING TOUCHED BY THE MANTLE- YOU ARE BEING CALLED TO THE RACE

ELISHA FIRST WAS TOUCHED BY THE MANTLE WHEN HE WAS PLOUGHING WITH HIS OXEN, BUT ELISHA DID NOT KEEP IT! IT WAS THE START OF HIS PREPARATION**!!!**

Do you understand the vision of your leaders- been touched by their mantle? Go to a leader-

 your parent- your pastor-commit yourself to be a faithful follower & ask their blessing

ASK GOD FOR A FRESH TOUCH OF THE MANTLE TONIGHT- A FRESH ANOINTING - FOR YOU TO PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE MANTLE! GROW IN GOD! BE CONNECTED WITH THE PROPER MENTORS!

**SLIDE # 13-MEN & WOMEN OF GOD**

TONIGHT SOME ARE IN A PASSING ZONE: YOU HAVE PREPARED- THERE IS A NEW MANTLE, A FRESH ANOINTING TO BE RECEIVED!

1) Has God joined you in heart & vision to a ministry- a man or woman of God? Are you receiving

 from the mantle of another man or woman of God?

2) Has the life & ministry of someone in church history gripped your heart & mind?

Pray, ASK GOD! MANY IN THE THE LAST GENERATION BEFORE CHRISTS RETURN WILL HAVE MANTLES… from ELIJAH… FROM JOHN WESLEY… FROM CHARLES FINNEY…

FROM BRIAN BAILEY…FROM KATHRYN KUHLMAN…FROM OTHERS!

**ARE YOU PREPARING FOR A MANTLE? RECEIVE!**